

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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For More Information, Contact:
Dubi Schwanz
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control

Phone: 701.328.3046

E-mail: dschwanz@nd.gov

## **Governor Hoeven Proclaims Cancer Survivors Day in North Dakota**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor John Hoeven has proclaimed Sunday, June 3, as Cancer Survivors Day in North Dakota.

Cancer Survivors Day honors cancer survivors for their strength and courage, as well as the contributions of families, friends and health-care providers. A cancer survivor is anyone living with a history of cancer – from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life

"Chances are, someone you care about is a cancer survivor," said State Health Officer Terry Dwelle, M.D. "In fact, three out of four American families will have at least one family member diagnosed with cancer. On June 3, I urge you to join me in recognizing and honoring the cancer survivors in our lives. They truly are heroes."

Major advances in cancer prevention, early detection and treatment have resulted in longer survival. With survival, however, there may be physical, emotional and financial hardships that often persist long after diagnosis and treatment. Survivors may face issues of pain management, long-term side effects of treatment, profound fear of recurrence, concern about job security and insurability, and decisions about end-of-life care. Despite these difficulties, cancer survivors can and do live active, productive lives.

For more information about Cancer Survivors Day in North Dakota, contact Dubi Schwanz, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.3046 or dschwanz@nd.gov.

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600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200 Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: <a href="health@nd.gov">health@nd.gov</a>

## Proclamation CANCER SURVIVORS DAY

June 3, 2007

WHEREAS, a cancer survivor is anyone living with a history of cancer, from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life; and

WHEREAS, about 22,000 North Dakotans are cancer survivors; and

WHEREAS, about 3,300 North Dakotans will be diagnosed with cancer this year, and so it is important to continue the fight against cancer and to reduce the risk of this disease among our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Dakota Cancer Coalition is working to optimize the quality of life for every person affected by cancer and to increase public awareness about cancer survivorship; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize cancer survivors and those who support them for their incredible courage in facing this disease and for their unwavering commitment to advocating for increased awareness and education.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim June 3, 2007, CANCER SURVIVORS DAY in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven Governor

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